



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Thursday, August 06, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

August 6, 2026

Approve

MINUTES

Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes - June 11, 2026

Page 3-8

Approve

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - Village of Telkwa Draft
Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 801, 2026**

Page 9-10

Recommendation

**Rowan Nagel, Planning/GIS Technician - Crown Land Referral
No. 6409614 - Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)**

Page 11-13

Recommendation

REPORTS

**Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services -
Volunteer Recognition Program Policy**

Page 14-21

Recommendation

**Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services -
Draft Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure**

Page 22-24

Discussion

CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Citizens' Services - Telecom Decision CRTC 2026-8

Page 25-26

Receive

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

2022-2026 RDBN Board Strategic Plan

- 1. Relationships with First Nations**
- 2. Advocacy with the Province**
- 3. Housing Supply**
- 4. Community and Economic Sustainability**



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
RURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Directors Present: Chair Michael Riis-Christianson
Judy Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Shirley Moon
Chris Newell
Chair Mark Parker
Stoney Stoltenberg

Staff: Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer - via Zoom
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Amy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Planning and Development Services
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

Others: Gladys Atrill, Town of Smithers
Treena Greenaway, Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural)
Linda McGuire, Village of Granisle
Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof - arrived at 12:01 p.m., left at 12:14 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Riis-Christianson called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

AGENDA & SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

Thursday, June 11, 2026

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June 11, 2026

2026-RSC-062

Moved by Director Newell

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Rural Services Committee Meeting Agenda for June 11, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2026

2026-RSC-063

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Rural Services Committee Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2026 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Referrals

Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner - Crown Land Application Referral No. 6409600 – Electoral Area A (Smithers/Telkwa Rural)

2026-RSC-064

Moved by Director Stoltenberg

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the comment sheet be provided to the Province as the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's response to Crown Land Application Referral No. 6409600.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cameron Kral, Planner - Crown Land Referral No. 7410408 - Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

2026-RSC-065

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Parker

That the comment sheet be provided as the Regional District's response to Crown Land

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Referral No. 7410408.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rowan Nagel, Planning/GIS Technician - Crown Land Referral No. 7410392 - Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

2026-RSC-066

Moved by Director Greenaway

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the comment sheet be provided as the Regional District's response to Crown Land Referral No. 7410392.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Grant Funding Review

2026-RSC-067

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' Grant Funding Review memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA) funding allocation and structure
 - Limited to capital owned by local governments
 - Infrastructure owned by societies being non-eligible
- Societies struggling to maintain current infrastructure e.g. exhibition sites in the region
 - Grant in aid being one of the only options to support infrastructure owned by societies
 - Exploring infrastructure ownership/partnership options
- RBA funding utilized for RDBN projects and infrastructure
- All RBA funding allocations are considered by the Board
- 15% of RBA funds can be allocated to operations and may provide the most flexible option

Thursday, June 11, 2026

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- Limited local government infrastructure in rural areas but can include parks, recreation, trails, environmental services, etc.
- Allocation of various grant funding options depending on projects and eligibility
- Encourage Directors to reach out to staff with questions.

2026-RSC-068

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to research RBA funding options for ownership/partnership possibilities for infrastructure owned by societies.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Economic Development Funds

Director Moon inquired about interest in electoral areas sharing economic development funds to support regional economic development initiatives. Discussion took place regarding funding available and criteria.

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - CRTC**Decision 2026-8****2026-RSC-069**

Moved by Parker

Seconded by Director Stoltenberg

That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' CRTC Decision 2026-8 memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services -
Connectivity Project Announcement May 2026****2026-RSC-070**

Moved by Director Newell

Seconded by Director Moon

That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' Connectivity Project Announcement May 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Director Greenaway requested an update regarding connectivity projects in Fort St. James. Staff will follow up.

Concerns were brought forward regarding the lack of identification by subcontractors visiting rural properties to connect homes to Telus fibre.

Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services - Draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy

2026-RSC-071

Moved by Director Lambert

Seconded by Director Greenaway

That the Committee receive the Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services' Draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy memorandum.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following was discussed:

- Providing verbal recognition to volunteer groups
- Including volunteer groups in the draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy
- Supporting and recognizing volunteer groups that are struggling
 - Potentially providing grant in aid
- Staff will bring forward an amended draft policy at a future meeting for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Hall Insurance

Director Moon brought forward exploring pooled insurance for community halls within the RDBN.

2026-RSC-072

Moved by Director Moon

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to explore pooled Insurance for community halls within the region and bring forward a report at a future Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Thursday, June 11, 2026

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2026-RSC-073

Moved by Director Newell

Seconded by Director Lambert

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Michael Riis-Christianson, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee of the Whole

To: Chair and Committee
From: Danielle Patterson, Senior Planner
Date: August 6, 2026
Subject: **Village of Telkwa Draft Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 801, 2026**

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

That staff be directed to respond to the Village of Telkwa's referral request stating that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako has no land use concerns regarding the Village's draft Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 801, 2026. Further, that the Village of Telkwa is encouraged to re-explore the RDBN's offer to participate in the RDBN's regional parks and trails service for Electoral Area A.

BACKGROUND

The Village of Telkwa is in the process of adopting a new Official Community Plan (OCP), which received first reading on June 23, 2026. The Regional District has received a referral copy of the OCP and a request to provide a referral response to the OCP (see attachments for link to OCP). The RDBN also received a copy of the June 23, 2026 Village of Telkwa Report to Council providing a background on the OCP and its review process (see Attachments for link to report).

Highlights from the Village of Telkwa's draft OCP include housing updates to reflect new provincial requirements; First Nations Reconciliation; neighbourhood-level planning; exploring a potential boundary expansion near the airport lands in the Morrison Road neighbourhood; and a strong emphasis on recreation, parks, and trails. Planning staff note that the OCP contains statements related to the interconnection of parks and trails with the RDBN. Examples are summarized as follows.

- Many trails cross between the Village and the RDBN. Connecting these trails systems would enhance the public trail system. (OCP page 10)
- Several objectives focus on improving trail connections between Telkwa neighbourhoods that would require crossing through the RDBN (OCP page 10)
- The OCP identifies an opportunity to partner with the RDBN on region-wide initiatives to enhance parks, trails, and the protection of the natural environment. (OCP Page 27)
- That the Cycle 16 trail system will bring cyclists to the Village of Telkwa. To take advantage of this opportunity, Telkwa will need to build trail connections and cycling infrastructure. (OCP page 27)

- OCP policy 3.7.4.7 states for the Village to “*advocate to include Telkwa in regional trail initiatives and wayfinding*”. (OCP Page 28)

Planning staff have reviewed the draft OCP Bylaw No. 801, 2026 and it does not raise any land use planning interface issues or other concerns relating to the RDBN. Planning staff recommend the Village of Telkwa be informed that the RDBN has no land use concerns with their draft OCP Bylaw No. 801, 2026. However, given repeated reference in the Village’s draft OCP to regional parks and trails initiatives, Planning staff further recommend that the Village of Telkwa be encouraged to re-explore the RDBN’s offer to participate in the RDBN regional parks and trails service for Electoral Area A.

As a professional courtesy, Planning staff have provided comments of a minor nature to Village’s Planning staff.

ATTACHMENTS:

- [Village of Telkwa draft OCP Bylaw No. 801, 2026](#) (link)
- [June 23, 2026 Village of Telkwa OCP Bylaw No. 801, 2026 Report to Council](#) (link)

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This topic aligns with the following Strategic Focus Area(s) from the RDBN Strategic Plan:
Not Applicable



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Services Committee

To: Chair and Committee
From: Rowan Nagel, GIS Technician
Date: August 6, 2026
Subject: **Crown Land Referral No. 6409614 - Electoral Area G (Houston Rural)**

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

That the attached comment sheet be provided as the Regional District's response to Crown Land Referral No. 6409614.

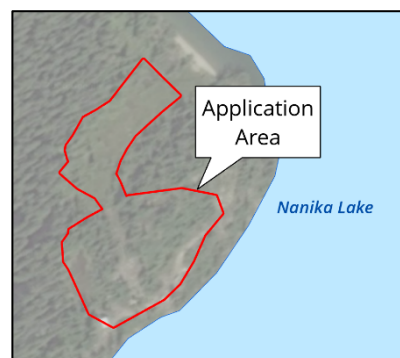
BACKGROUND



The applicant (Raye Resources Incorporated) has applied for a 5-year License of Occupation over a 0.63 hectare (1.5 acre) section of unsurveyed Crown land. The purpose of this application is to build a temporary work camp servicing several mineral claims held by the applicant. The proposed camp is in Electoral Area G, approximately 90 kilometres south-west of Houston, on the west shore of Nanika Lake. Due to the remote location, all material and staff will be flown in by float plane or helicopter.

This location was chosen as it was historically used

for work camps servicing the applicant's mineral claims and is connected to the claims by existing trails. There is one existing structure in the area, thought to house an old generator. Currently, the site is overgrown and will require clearing, though no merchantable timber will be cut or removed.



The proposed camp consists of four sleeper tents, a kitchen tent, a shower tent, a dry tent, a core logging tent, and a pit toilet. Each tent will sit on a temporary timber pad, which will also be dismantled at the end of each season. If approved, material to build the camp will be flown in yearly after July 16th. It will be active over the summer then dismantled by October 31st. The camp will be populated by up to 12 people between July 16th and October 31st for the duration of the License. Water will be drawn from Nanika Lake.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Comment Sheet

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This topic aligns with the following Strategic Focus Area(s) from the RDBN Strategic Plan:

Not Applicable

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Comment Sheet on Crown Land Referral No. 6409614

Electoral Area:	Electoral Area G (Houston Rural)
Applicant:	Raye Resources Inc.
Existing Land Use:	Unsurveyed Crown Land
Zoning:	Not Zoned
Plan Designation	Not Designated
Proposed Use Comply with Zoning:	N/A
If not, why?	N/A
Agricultural Land Reserve:	No
Access:	Air Access Only
Building Inspection:	No
Fire Protection:	No
Other comments:	N/A



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Services Committee

To: Chair and Committee

From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services

Date: August 6, 2026

Subject: **Volunteer Recognition Program Policy**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

That the Committee recommend that the Board approve the draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy.

BACKGROUND

As per direction at the June 11, 2026, Rural Services Committee meeting, staff have updated the Draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy to include a second category for Volunteer Organization of the Year in each Electoral Area.

Based on 2026 cost estimates, staff expect the proposed budget line in the 2027 Economic Development budget to support this policy to be \$2,500.

Item	Cost
Catered lunch (in addition to Board) \$30 x 28 ppl	\$850
Engraved recognition plaques \$100 x 14 awards	\$1,400
Venue rental for awards presentation lunch	\$250
TOTAL	\$2,500

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Volunteer Recognition Program Policy

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This topic aligns with the following Strategic Focus Area(s) from the RDBN Strategic Plan:
Not Applicable



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Volunteer Recognition Program Policy
ADOPTED: TBD**

Purpose:

To recognize individuals and organizations that make exceptional contributions to the community through volunteer service. The program aims to:

- Celebrate outstanding volunteer contributions.
- Promote a culture of volunteerism.
- Increase public awareness of the value of volunteers.
- Strengthen relationships between local government and community organizations.

Policy:

Nominations

Nomination Period: Nominations for Volunteer of the Year and Volunteer Organization of the Year for each Electoral Area will be open from January 15 to February 28 (or closest weekday prior if the date falls on a weekend) of each year.

The nomination forms will be available on the RDBN Website, as well as downloadable fillable forms that can be returned by email or regular mail.

Selection

Nominations will be evaluated by 3-5 staff using the attached scoring matrices.

Electoral Area Directors are welcome to participate in the evaluation process.

Candidates selected to receive awards will receive a letter under signature of the Chair informing them of the award. The letter will include an invitation to the Awards Presentation. Individuals selected to receive Volunteer of the Year will be invited to attend with one guest. Organizations selected to receive Volunteer Organization of the Year will be invited to select two representatives from the organization to attend.

Awards Presentation

At the April Committee meeting each year, RDBN Directors will break for lunch in time to attend an off-site Volunteer Recognition luncheon organized by RDBN staff in Burns Lake. Each Volunteer of the Year will be invited to attend with a guest, and each Volunteer Organization will be invited to send two representatives for a total of twenty-eight guests in addition to RDBN Directors and staff.

Following a catered meal, RDBN EA Directors will present engraved plaques to the awardees from their area.

The costs for the luncheon over and above regular Committee lunch costs will be included in the annual Economic Development budget as a line item.

A press release announcing the winners will be published, and photographs of award recipients with RDBN Directors will be shared on the RDBNs social media channels.

RDBN Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee Name:

Community:

Organization/Program:

Volunteer Role(s):

Length of Service:

Approximate hours contributed in last 12 months:

Nominator Name:

Relationship to Nominee:

Email/Phone:

Please answer the following questions (each with a maximum of 250 words):

1) IMPACT

Describe how the nominee's volunteer efforts have made a meaningful impact on the organization, community, clients, or members.

2) COMMITMENT

Provide examples of the nominee's dedication, reliability, and willingness to go above and beyond expectations.

3) LEADERSHIP

Describe the ways the nominee has demonstrated leadership, problem-solving, mentorship, innovation, or initiative.

4) VALUES

How does the nominee exemplify the mission, vision, and values of the organization?

5) INSPIRATION

What is one specific accomplishment or contribution that best illustrates why this individual deserves Volunteer of the Year?

Volunteer of the Year Scoring Matrix:

Category	Weight	Score
IMPACT	40	/40
COMMITMENT	20	/20
LEADERSHIP	20	/20
VALUES	15	/15
INSPIRATION	5	/5
Total	100	/100

Detailed Scoring Guide

1. Impact (40 points)

0-10 Limited or localized impact

11-20 Positive impact on a program or project

21-30 Significant and measurable impact affecting multiple people or initiatives

31-40 Exceptional impact with lasting, transformative results

Look for: Number of people affected, Measurable outcomes, Sustainability of contribution, Unique contributions.

2. Commitment (20 points)

0-5 Meets expectations

6-10 Frequently exceeds expectations

11-15 Consistently dependable and highly engaged

16-20 Extraordinary commitment and service above and beyond expectations

Look for: # of Volunteer hours, Attendance, Responsiveness, Longevity.

3. Leadership (20 points)

0-5 Participates effectively

6-10 Occasionally takes initiative

11-15 Regularly leads, mentors, or improves processes

16-20 Inspires others and drives meaningful change

Look for: Mentoring, Team leadership, New ideas, Problem-solving.

4. Values (15 points)

0-4 Demonstrates organizational values

5-8 Frequently exemplifies values

9-12 Strong ambassador for the organization

13-15 Exceptional role model and community champion

Volunteer Recognition Program Policy

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5. Overall Inspiration Factor (5 points)

This is the judge's discretionary score. After reviewing all nominations, how strongly does this individual stand out as Volunteer of the Year?

1 Good nominee

2-3 Strong nominee

4 Outstanding nominee

5 Exceptional, clear award contender

RDBN Volunteer Organization of the Year Nomination Form

Organization/Program:

Primary Contact Name:

Email/phone:

Year Established:

Community:

Number of Active Volunteers

Number of volunteer hours contributed annually (if known):

Nominator Name:

Relationship to organization:

Email/Phone:

Please answer the following questions (each with a maximum of 250 words):

1) IMPACT

Describe how the organization's volunteers have made a meaningful difference in the community in the past year.

2) ENGAGEMENT

Describe how the organization recruits, trains, supports, recognizes, and retains volunteers.

3) LEADERSHIP

How does the organization demonstrate strong leadership, governance, and effective volunteer management?

4) INCLUSION

How does the organization create opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds and abilities to volunteer and participate?

5) INNOVATION

Describe any innovative approaches, creative solutions, or new initiatives introduced by the organization.

6) INSPIRATION

Provide one compelling example that best demonstrates why this organization deserves recognition.

Volunteer of the Year Scoring Matrix:

Category	Weight	Score
IMPACT	35	/35
ENGAGEMENT	25	/25
LEADERSHIP	15	/15
INCLUSION	10	/10
INNOVATION	10	/10
INSPIRATION	5	/5
Total	100	/100

Detailed Scoring Guide

1. Impact (35 points)

0-10 Limited impact or evidence provided

11-20 Positive impact within a specific program or population

21-30 Significant and measurable community impact

31-35 Exceptional, sustained, and transformative impact

Look for: Number of people affected, Measurable results, depth of impact community need addressed

2. Engagement (25 points)

0-7 Basic volunteer management practices

8-15 Effective volunteer engagement and support

16-20 Strong volunteer culture and retention

21-25 Exemplary volunteer experience and organizational culture

Look for: Recruitment, training, recognition, retention, accessibility

3. Leadership (15 points)

0-4 Adequate organizational practices

5-8 Effective management and planning

9-12 Strong leadership and organizational effectiveness

13-15 Outstanding leadership and governance

4. Inclusion (10 points)

0-2 Minimal evidence provided

3-5 Some inclusive practices evident

6-8 Strong commitment to inclusion and accessibility

9-10 Outstanding and embedded DEIA practices

Volunteer Recognition Program Policy

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5. Innovation (10 points)

0-2 Limited innovation demonstrated

3-5 Some examples with creative approaches

6-8 Regular innovation and improvement

9-10 Exceptional innovation with demonstrated results

6. Overall Distinction (5 points)

This is the judge's discretionary score. After reviewing all nominations, how strongly does this organization stand out as Volunteer Organization of the Year?

1 Good nominee

2-3 Strong nominee

4 Outstanding nominee

5 Exceptional, clearly deserving of recognition



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Rural Services Committee

To: Chair and Committee

From: Nellie Davis, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Rural Services

Date: August 6, 2026

Subject: **Draft Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure**

RECOMMENDATION: **(all/directors/majority)**

Discussion.

BACKGROUND

Staff are proposing an RDBN Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure to outline how the RDBN will recognize grants provided to community groups and other governments. The procedure aims to provide consistency and clearly define responsibilities related to grant recognition.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft RDBN Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This topic aligns with the following Strategic Focus Area(s) from the RDBN Strategic Plan:
Not Applicable



Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure

PURPOSE:

To outline the ways in which the RDBN will communicate grant approvals.

SCOPE:

This procedure covers all grants approved by the RDBN Board and Directors

PROCESS:

Grants in Aid and Economic Development Service Grants (in addition to the recipient recognition requirements in the Grant in Aid Policy)

- a) For grants up to \$25,000 awarded grants will be:
 - listed in the Administration Department Quarterly Report.
 - posted on the RDBN website, a link to which will be advertised quarterly.
 - listed in table format in a Press Release published annually following the final Board meeting of a calendar year.
 - included on a letter-size PDF sign file and provided digitally to the recipient for appropriate use.
- b) For grants over \$25,000, the awarded grants will also be:
 - included on a tabloid sized, coroplast poster and provided to the recipient for appropriate use.
- c) For grants over \$100,000 the awarded grant will also be:
 - included on a letter-sized metal sign and provided to the recipient for permanent display.
 - included in a project-specific press release upon project completion.
 - required to include a photo opportunity organized by the recipient, with photographs provided to the RDBN with model release waivers within seven business days.
- d) Poster-sized coroplast recognition signage will be provided to Directors as required at the start of an election term to have on-hand and bring to recognition events such as photo opportunities.

For grants under \$100,000 photo opportunities will not be required, but may be organized by the recipient, and attendance will be at the discretion of the Director. Directors should be sure to communicate the timing of these events to staff and assist in ensuring copies of the photos are provided to the RDBN.
- e) Staff attendance for photo opportunities (when invited) will be at the discretion of the CAO.



Grant Recognition and Signage Procedure

Building Communities Strong Fund Grants

As per communication requirements outlined in the 2024-2034 funding agreement with UBCM, federal sign templates will be used to recognize projects funded by RDBN Build Communities Strong Funds.

All other signage is subject to an approval process by UBCM and Canada.

Northwest BC Regional Funding Agreement Operational Funding provided as a Grant

As per the Northwest BC Regional Funding Agreement with the Province of BC, all funds will be reported on the Long Term Development Plan.

As per participant agreement, all funds will also be reported on the RBA website, and prescribed project signage will be displayed.

Nellie Davis

From: Lee, Nicola CITZ:EX <Nicola.Lee@gov.bc.ca> on behalf of Stanford, Susan CITZ:EX <Susan.Stanford@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: July 8, 2026 11:42 AM
Subject: Telecom Decision CRTC 2026-8 — Making broadband Internet and mobile services information available to Canadians (Part 1 Application)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please do not click on links on open attachments from unknown sources.
 Good morning,

I am writing on behalf of the Province of British Columbia to share the outcome of British Columbia's Part 1 application to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), filed on September 20, 2024, regarding the disclosure of certain Annual Facilities Survey data, and to thank you for your intervention in support of the application.

As you are aware, the Ministry of Citizens' Services requested that provinces and territories be given access to three categories of data collected through the CRTC's Annual Facilities Survey. First, that broadband Internet and mobile service coverage data be disclosed publicly at a more granular level; second, that complete facilities datasets be shared confidentially with provincial and territorial governments; and third, that transport network data be similarly shared on a confidential basis to support connectivity planning and funding decisions.

In [Telecom Decision CRTC 2026-8](#), issued January 15, 2026, the Commission approved the first request, directing that service coverage data at the 250-metre road-segment level by provider, technology, and speed will no longer be kept confidential. I am pleased to advise that this data is now publicly available as of May 28, 2026. This is a meaningful step that will increase transparency for Canadians and improve the quality of information available to all orders of government for connectivity planning. The Commission denied the second and third requests at this time.

The newly public data can be accessed through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's (ISED) [National Broadband Data \(NBD\) dataset on the Government of Canada's Open Government Portal](#). In particular, the "NBD Roads" resources provide broadband service availability by approximately 250-metre road segments, with associated provider, technology, and speed information, supported by an accompanying data dictionary.

This information may be useful to governments, communities, and partners for identifying and validating underserved road segments; comparing reported service availability against local knowledge and lived experience; and informing broadband funding, program design, and prioritization. It can also support emergency management and resiliency planning by highlighting areas where connectivity gaps may affect access to services or public safety; and helping residents, businesses, and community organizations better understand available service options in their area.

The breadth and quality of support from interveners, including provincial and territorial governments, municipalities, regional districts, public safety organizations, Indigenous organizations, and connectivity advocacy groups - was instrumental in demonstrating the strong public interest case for greater data transparency. The Commission's decision to approve the first request reflected, in significant part, the evidence and perspectives that you and other supporting interveners brought to the record.

British Columbia remains committed to ensuring that provinces and territories have access to the telecommunications infrastructure data needed to support effective funding decisions, critical infrastructure

resiliency planning, and emergency management. We continue to engage with both the CRTC and ISED on these matters, including through the CRTC's active resiliency consultation (Telecom Notice of Consultation 2025-226), which provides an important opportunity to advance the case for provincial access to infrastructure data in the context of public safety and network resiliency.

We welcome your continued interest and engagement as this work progresses. Should you wish to discuss this further or explore opportunities for collaboration, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Susan Stanford

ADM Connectivity
Ministry of Citizens' Services
Victoria, BC | T 250.580.7459